

Livable Nashua

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Air Quality Takes a Hit During New Year's Eve Fireworks
- Nashua Entrepreneur Honored for Energy Efficiency Leadership
- Livable Nashua: Progressing Forward
- Jackson Mills Dam gets a Refresh
- Nashua Community Power Announces Electricity Rates...
- \$15 Million Grant to Expand EV Charging Infrastructure...
- Nashua Sustainability Fair!

New Year's Eve celebrations in Nashua, like many cities, were accompanied by a significant spike in air pollution due to the widespread use of fireworks. Local air quality sensors detected elevated levels of particulate matter, a key air pollutant, between 7pm on December 31st and 2am on January 1st. While overall air quality remained moderate, a brief spike into the "[unhealthy for sensitive groups](#)" category was recorded near City Hall, likely due to nearby fireworks.

Particulate matter consists of tiny particles that can travel deep into the lungs. Exposure to elevated levels can worsen respiratory

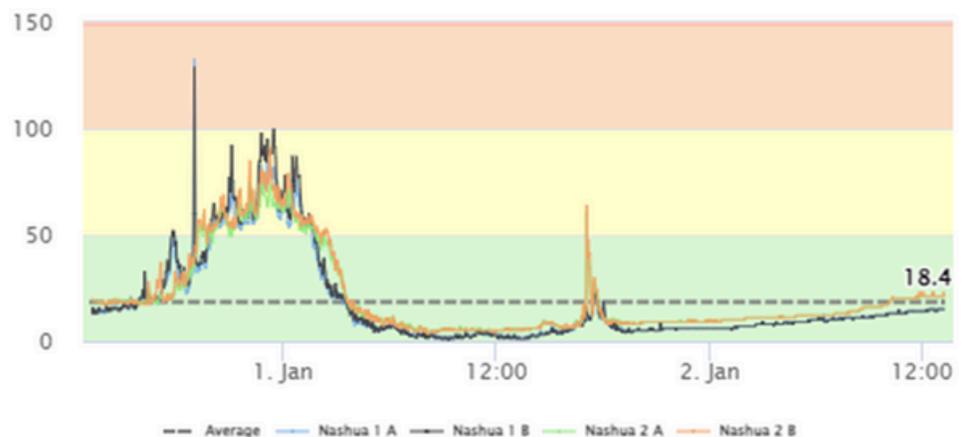
AIR QUALITY TAKES A HIT DURING NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS



US EPA PM2.5 (US EPA) AQI

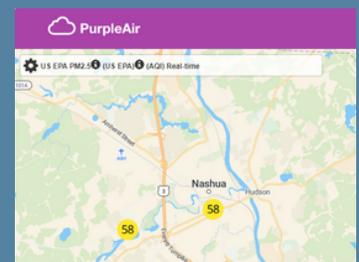


Real-time



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conditions such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and may increase the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Even healthy individuals may experience temporary symptoms like coughing, wheezing, and eye irritation. These health concerns underscore the importance of exploring more sustainable and environmentally friendly ways to celebrate special occasions, ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.



[Check Nashua's Air Quality](#)

Nashua Entrepreneur Honored for Energy Efficiency Leadership



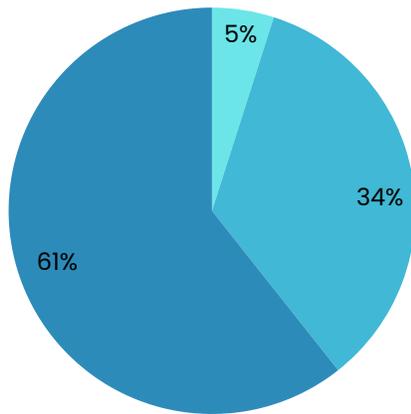
Entrepreneur
OF THE YEAR



Local business owner from Nashua, Michael Turcotte, was recently awarded "Entrepreneur of the Year" by Stay Work Play New Hampshire at their 2024 Rising Stars Awards. Recognized for his outstanding leadership and impact in New Hampshire, Turcotte has grown his business to become a preferred contractor for state utilities and has notably achieved a 135% growth in its weatherization division. Weatherization helps make homes and buildings more energy-efficient, which is crucial for our environment. Beyond his business success, he is also a member of Nashua's Environment and Energy Committee, where he works to make the city more sustainable. By promoting environmental stewardship and renewable energy, Turcotte plays a key role in guiding Nashua towards a more sustainable future.

Livable Nashua: Progressing Forward

The Livable Nashua Plan, adopted by the Board of Alderman in April 2024, is showing tangible results as the city moves towards a more sustainable and equitable future. The city's sustainability department has been actively working to implement the 61 actions outlined in the plan. To date, 24 actions have seen significant progress, while 3 have been fully completed. A key accomplishment is the establishment of a Community Benefit Fund, fulfilling [Action EB 1.2.C](#) and [Action EB 2.1.D](#). This fund will directly support Nashua residents through various rebate programs and renewable energy projects, contributing to a more sustainable community.



While challenges remain, the progress made so far demonstrates a strong commitment to the Livable Nashua Plan and a promising future for the city as a thriving and equitable community.

Stay Up to Date with the Plan's Progress

Jackson Mills Dam Gets a Refresh

In late October, 2024, a new turbine was installed at the Jackson Mills Hydroelectric Facility in downtown Nashua. The newly installed turbine enhances the plant's efficiency and is able to produce about 1 megawatt of renewable energy, enough to power about 1000 homes, using the River's natural flow.

Although the project was delayed by record-breaking rainfall in 2023 and early 2024, the project is now getting back on track, and once complete will help provide Nashua residents with a future of clean, affordable electricity. This aligns with the city's commitment to the Livable Nashua Plan, which aims for a more sustainable future.



Did You Know?

- In 2023 hydroelectric power made up 9% of New Hampshire's total electricity generation, and it was the largest source of New Hampshire's renewable electricity generation.
- New Hampshire has 24 utility-scale (1 megawatt or larger) hydroelectric facilities, 2 of which are in Nashua, Jackson Mills and Mine Falls Dams.

Nashua Community Power Announces Electricity Rates for 2025

CPCNH Supply Rates February 1st – July 31st, 2025
For Residential, General Service, & Outdoor Lighting

Power Options	Renewable Content †	Rate (¢/kWh)	Estimated Cost of Supply per Month *
Clean 100	100%	12.3 ¢	~ \$80/month
Clean 50	50%	10.3 ¢	~ \$67/month
Granite Plus	33%	9.6 ¢	~ \$62/month
Granite Basic (Default Power Option)	25.2%	8.9 ¢	~ \$58/month

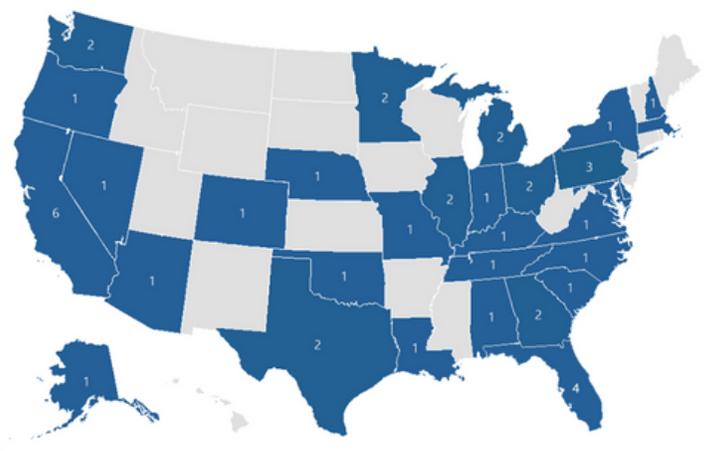
† Minimum renewable content is compliant with NH's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), RSA 362-F. Total renewable content includes the NH RPS prior to NH Dept. of Energy administrative reductions to minimum requirements due to shortage of qualifying biomass generation. * Based on usage of 650 kWh per month

Nashua Community Power has announced its electricity rates for the term beginning February 1, 2025. The default supply option, known as Granite Basic, will be priced at 8.9 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh), matching Eversource's rate for the same period. Since its launch in the spring of 2023, Nashua Community Power has collaborated with the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) to manage the city's community power program. This partnership enables Nashua to offer competitive and stable rates, clean energy options, and local control over energy decisions.

Residents and businesses have the flexibility to choose from various electricity supply options, including those with higher renewable energy content, or to opt out of the program entirely. Customers can make a selection or find more information by contacting Nashua Community Power's customer service.

[Additional Details](#)

\$15 Million Grant to Expand EV Charging in NH, Including Nashua



Map of Charging and Fueling Infrastructure grant, round 2 recipients: 49 recipients across 31 states and the District of Columbia, awarded \$635.69 million.

Nashua, along with other New Hampshire communities, is set to benefit from a major federal grant that will fund the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations across the state. The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) led a coalition that was awarded a \$15 million grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program.

The grant will fund a three-phase program, which aims to significantly increase the number of public Level 2 and DC Fast Charging (DCFC) stations in both urban and rural areas throughout New Hampshire. This will help to address range anxiety, a common concern among EV drivers who worry about running out of power before they can reach a charging station. In total, the project will install 199 new EV charging ports across the state, including sites in Nashua. By making it easier for people to charge their EVs, the program is expected to boost EV adoption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles.

[CFI Grant Recipients](#)



Mark Your Calendars!

Nashua's annual **Sustainability Fair** returns to the **Nashua Public Library** on **April 26th, 2025** from **11:00 AM to 2:00 PM**.

- Discover a world of sustainability:
- **Informational Tables:** Learn from local organizations about a variety of sustainability topics.
 - **Eco-Market:** Find unique, eco-friendly products from local vendors.
 - **EV Car Show:** Explore an array of electric vehicles and learn about the benefits of going electric.
 - **Community Art Project:** Contribute to a collaborative art piece focused on sustainability.
 - And much more!

Bring the whole family and let's celebrate a greener future for Nashua together.